FCHS HONOR CODE PLEDGE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TIMELINE OF EVENTS LEADING TO WORLD WAR II**

DIRECTIONS: *Place each of the events leading up to American involvement in World War II in its proper place – next to its description – on the timeline below.*

**A. Mussolini Rises to Power B. The Bombing of Pearl Harbor, HI**

**C. The Invasion of Manchuria D. The Battle of Britain**

**E. The Neutrality Act of 1935 F. Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact**

**G. The Atlantic Charter H. The Invasion of the Soviet Union**

**I. The Munich Pact is Signed J. Czechoslovakia is Invaded**

**K. Japan Invades China L. The Night of Broken Glass – Krystallnacht**

**N. The Lend-Lease Act is Passed O. The Invasion of Poland**

**1922 –** In October of 1922, this man became the Fascist dictator of Italy – and a model for future Fascist dictators like Hitler, Franco, and Tojo.

EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1931 –** The Japanese Army seized this region of China without any permission to do so from the government – it was the start of a militaristic and fascist dictatorship in the island nation.

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**1935 –** The United States passed this law in order to stay out of the growing conflict in Europe. Fearful that the nation might be drawn into the war as they had during World War I, isolationist policies prevailed.

EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1937 –** With the blessing of Emperor Hirohito and Prime Minister Tojo, the war to control Asia was expanded through this action in 1937.

EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**September, 1938 –** Neville Chamberlain and the rest of Europe signed this feeble agreement with Hitler in the fall of 1938, giving the Nazi’s control of the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia in hopes that he would end his militaristic aggression. He did not.

EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**November, 1938 –** This event was a result of violent anti-Semitism – or the hatred of Jewish people – in Nazi Germany. Synagogues were burned down, Jewish owned businesses were destroyed and looted, and Jewish citizens were beaten up and jailed without cause.

EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**March, 1939** – The Nazis, invaded and take over the rest of Czechoslovakia.

EVENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**August, 1939 –** Josef Stalin and the USSR signed an agreement not to fight with the Nazis. In fact, the two nations agreed to simultaneously invade Poland and split up the nation’s territory.

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**September, 1939 –** World War II formally began when the Nazis launched this assault – in coordination with the Soviet Union. Both England and France declared war on Nazi Germany.

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**June, 1940 –** The German Luftwaffe, or Air Force begins bombing Great Britain. Winston Churchill, the new Prime Minister, declares that the island will never surrender to Nazi tyranny.

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**December, 1940 –** The United States passes a new law allowing military equipment and supplies to be sent to our allies in Europe – but still not committing itself to involvement in World War II.

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**June, 1941 –** Operation Barbarossa begins when Nazi Germany betrays Josef Stalin and invades the USSR. Millions of Soviet soldiers and Jewish civilians are murdered in the opening months.

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**August of 1941 –** FDR and Churchill vowed to defeat Nazi tyranny in this document, signed off Canada’s coast in the summer of 1941. The US still had not declared war against the Axis Powers, though.

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**December 7, 1941 –** Japan strikes at the United States Pacific fleet in a surprise attack.

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